# WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and

Congress did not sit vesterday, nor will it today-both Houses having on Thursday adjourned to Monday.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1854.

If Government could take a hint from a private source, we should think it would find the sugges tion in the annexed paragraph from a Charleston paper worthy of adoption. The same thing, to be sure, was recommended in our own journal some months ago, when the Treasury commenced buying up its own six per cent. stock at twenty-one per cent. premium, but the Department could not take such for want of legal authority; and the advice, moreover, came from a questionable source. Coming, however, from a source politically friendly, as this does, Congress might, without derogation we think, adopt the plan, which as a relief measure is even more desirable now than before.

"We would recommend to Congress the enactment of a law authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to establish at each office throughout the United States a board to any one the public funds of the Government, not exceeding two-thirds the amount in the vaults of each office at six per cent., on ninety days promissory notes, secured by United States six per cent. stocks, at their par value in the market, provided said stock is selling at par or above it."

#### POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

We give, in this day's paper, all the material portions of the Postmaster General's Annual Report, omitting only the appendix and some of its tabular statements. This expose of the vast and ramified operations of that great beneficent Department of the Government on whose energy, sagacity, and vigilance the business of the country and its social and domestic comfort and satisfaction are so materially dependent, will possess interest for almost every intelligent citizen. We do not believe that the duties of any Department of the Government are more arduous, or are discharged with more intelligence, assiduity, or success, than this one.

THE ARMY AND THE NAVY.

The PRESIDENT, in urging in his Message an increase of the Army, refers to measures of reform in its organic arrangement and administration. He favors an increase of the compensation of officers, the bill of the last session to raise the pay of the rank and file having had a beneficial influence. He favors a retired list, as best promoting the efficiency of the Army by the promotion of those most fit for active duty, "without wounding the just pride of men who by past services have established a claim to high consideration." We believe this would be an acceptable arrangement to the Army, and not objectionable to the people. The national gratitude is strong enough to give the measure a trial.

In adverting to the impolicy on the part of the United States in agreeing to give up altogether the resort to privateers in time of war, the President suggests the inequality which exists between our Navy and that of Great Britain, which is at least ten times as large as that of the United States. A conflict would be a very unequal one even with a secondary naval Power. The President dwells more upon the necessity of ample provision for the discipline and improvement of the character of seamen than upon a large addition to our naval force. He seconds the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy for a gradual increase of that arm of the national defence.

OUR AFFAIRS WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

There seems to be but a small matter remaining to be adjusted between the United States and Great which I am your humble and obedient servant. Britain, and that is as to the boundary line of the Territory of Washington, (the northern part of Oregon,) adjoining the British possessions on the Pacific. In the commission proposed by the President, for the settlement of what may lead to "serious disputes," it is contemplated to extinguish the rights of the Hudson's Bay Company to the navigation of the Columbia river. All else appears to have been amicably adjusted with Great Britain.

## RESISTANCE TO TAXES IN OHIO.

Great excitement prevails in portions of Ohio, particularly in the cities, in regard to the construction of a section of the law imposing taxes. It appears that debts due to individuals are taxed, and the Auditor of State refuses to allow deductions for offsets, &c. It is calculated that one hundred millions of dollars will be added to the assessment by this construction. More than two thousand of the best business men of all classes in Cincinnati have pledged themselves to resist the tax, and a mass meeting was held at Cincinnati on the 2d instant to concert measures of resistance. At this meeting they resolved to "pay no tax upon credit, without the lawful offset or deduction, until the same shall have been de clared the true intent and meaning of the statute, after full hearing before the highest judicatories known to our laws." Addresses were delivered by Judge Walker, Mr. Stanbery, and others, strongly advocating the movement.

# MONEY AND BUSINESS SPECULATIONS.

A BETTER FRELING .- The Boston Journal says that "the opinion is gaining ground among the merchants and traders of that city that the present depression in business results from temporary causes which will soon cease to act. Business, which has been too much inflated, is being rapidly contracted within its proper limits. Importations have greatly fallen off. Railroad enterprises at the West, which have drawn largely upon our moneyed resources, are at a stand. There is no speculation in real estate or fancy stocks. The demand for money, which is now very great from those who have maturing contracts, must become less and less urgent, and the point will soon be reached when the supply of capital will fully equal the legitimate wants of trade. Many of our largest houses have seen the darkest hours of the present crisis, and are now rapidly progressing 'out of the woods.' Others will soon be in a safe position, and after the first of January the improvement in financial matters will, we feel confident, be marked and permanent." This is the condition of the leading Atlantic cities generally. There is good ground to hope that the worst has been experienced, and the prospect is brightening .- Baltimore American.

THE MEDITERRANEAN SQUADEON. -In answer to various inquiries as to the probable time for the return of the Mediterranean squadron, we cannot do better than state the substance of the remarks of the Secretary of the Navy in reference to it, that the Cumberland, the flag ship, will return early in the spring, and the St. Louis and Levant early in the ensuing year.

The Hon. RAMON AZPUBA, Minister of Venezuela, has obtained leave of his Government to be temporarily absent from the United States, and we learn that he will shortly depart for Caraccas .- Star.

FATTERING CHICKERS .- The Albany Register says tha fowls or chickens may be fattened in four or five days by feeding them three times daily with rice boiled in milk, always fresh, as sourness prevents them from fattening. Give them clear water to drink. By this method the flesh is made particularly white.

#### THE SOULE CORRESPONDENCE.

Finding in the New York Times, received last Wednesday, the Correspondence, transmitted to Congress by the PRESIDENT on Monday, relating to Mr. Souls's recent difficulty with the French Government, we thought it might gratify the curiosity of our readers by immediately laying it before them. It was prefigured in the letter of our Paris correspondent, published on the 27th ultimo.

Minister Mason to Secretary Marcy.

LEGATION UNITED STATES,

(No. 37.)

SIE: An incident of very grave import has transpired.

In my No. 36 I communicated the intelligence that Mr.

SOULS, United States Minister to Spain, had been prohibited, by alleged orders of the Emperor's Government,

from entring France. rom entering France.

That I might, without delay, ascertain the facts of

this extraordinary and unusual proceeding, I sent Mr. Piatt, Secretary of this Legation, to Dover to communicate with Mr. Soule. He left Paris in the evening of Pract, Secretary of this Legation, to Dover to communicate with Mr. Soule. He left Paris in the evening of the 25th, and on his arrival, finding that Mr. Soule had left Dover, he proceeded to London, where he had an interview with that gentleman. The order forbidding his entering France was wholly unknown to Mr. Soule, and he assures me that neither by deed nor by words, uttered or written, had he afforded a shadow of excuse for the wanton measure which, in violation of his rights as a citizen of the North American Republic, and of his privileges as one of its accredited Ministers, has interdicted to him a passage through France on his way back to Madrid.

I lost no time after the return of Mr. Piatt in addressing to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, under date of the 26th instant, a communication, of which I send you a copy. It was sent to the Foreign Office on the 28th, and I have not yet received an answer.

It is impossible not to regard this humiliating indignity as deeply injurious, when it is remembered that Mr. Soule, acting under your orders, has recently spent more than two weeks in Paris; and while sojourning here neither he nor I received any intimation that his presence was objected to by the French Government.

Seeing no adequate cause to justify an unfriendly feeling towards the United States, I cannot but hope that the French Government, finding that it has acted on erroneous information, will at once redress this grievous wrong.

If in this I am disappointed, earnest as I have been since I have represented our country at this Court to cultivate the most cordial relations of amity between the

since I have represented our country at this Court to cultivate the most cordial relations of amity between the importance that it is not impossible I shall regard it to be my duty to terminate my mission by demanding my passports. I will not lose a moment in keeping you advised of the reply to my note and of the progress of events in connexion with this most extraordinary affair.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. Y. MASON.

Minister Mason to Drouyn de l' Huys.

LEGATION DES ETATS UNIS,
PARIS, OCTOBER 27, 1854.
MR. DROUYN DE L'HUYS, Minister Foreign Affairs:
SIR: I have received information that on the 24th instant Mr. Soule, on his arrival at Calais from the shores of England, was notified by a police officer that orders had been given by the Imperial Government that he should not be permitted to enter France, and that by these orders he was compelled to return to England, where he now remains. Mr. Soule is a citizen of the Minister Plenipotentiary from his country to the Court of Spain. He had, in executing the orders of his Govern-ment, visited Paris and London, and was returning to his post at Madrid by the most usual and convenient route through the territories of France when he was thus ar-rested in his journey. He had received no notice of the determination of the Emperor's Government to deny him a privilege awarded by all nations to citizens or subjects of friendly Powers travelling under their protection; and especially those who are clothed with the sacred charac-ter of public Ministers; for he was actually arrested in his journey some hours before I received the intimations in regard to him which you did me the honor to give me in the afternoon of the 24th instant.

If authorized by the Emperor's Government it cannot

the temperor's Government it cannot but be regarded by the Government and people of the United States not only as a most unusual and humiliating act towards the Minister personally, but as a national indignity of very grave character, only to be extenuated by facts established by conclusive proof. Without waiting for special instructions to that effect, I regard it as my imperative duty to hasten to ask for what reasons are of my follow-titizens, where he was the my continued to the contract of the contra one of my fellow-citizens, chosen by my country as a representative to a foreign Power, has been so treated, while relations of amity and peace exist and are cherished by the United States with France. My Government will be filled with painful anxiety until satisfactory information in reply to this inquiry can be communicated. I cannot but hope that your Excellency will furnish me with such explanations as may relieve the Minister. me with such explanations as may relieve the Minister from the position in which he has thus been placed, and which will enable me to allay the unpleasant feelings

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to your Ex-J. Y. MASON

M. Drouyn de l' Huys to Mr. Mason.

[TRANSLATION.] PARIS, NOVEMBER 1, 1854. Sin: I have received the letter you did me the honor to write me, under date of the 27th of the last month, in which you ask me for some explanations as to the motives of the determination taken with regard to Mr. Soule. I must, in the first place, state the manner in which things

have occurred. The Minister of the Interior had to give directions that Mr. Soule should not be allowed to penetrate into France without the knowledge of the Government of the Emperor. The instructions of Mr. Billant were strictly followed, and carried out with the utmost propriety by the Commissary of Police at Calais. Accordingly, that functionary did not invite Mr. Soule to embark again for Eugland; he left him perfectly free to remain at Calais until he should re-ceive orders from Paris, which he was about to request. It was simply a question of waiting patiently for one day at the utmost; but Mr. Soule, after saying that he did not expect any regard on the part of the French Government, and that besides he did not care for it, preferred to go back to England immediately. The Minister of the Interior did, nevertheless, forward his definitive instructions of the contract of the tions to Calais by telegraph, and I can do nothing better

"If Mr. Soule presents himself for the purpose of entering France, you will give him to understand that the Emperor's Government does not authorize him to sejourn there, but that it makes no opposition to his passing through in order to go to Spain; and you will offer him to vise his passport for that

You perceive, sir, that the Government of the Emperor has not sought, as you seem to believe, to prevent an en-voy of the United States from traversing French territory in order to repair to his post and acquit himself of the commission of which he was charged by his Government; but between that simple passage and the stay of a for-eigner whose antecedents (I regret to say it) have awak-ened the attention of the authorities whose duty it is to preserve public order among us, there is a difference which the Minister of the Interior was bound to appreciate. If Mr. Soule had been going directly to Madrid, the route by France was open to him. If it was his intention to come to Paris with a view of remaining here, that will be a sound to the come to that privilege was not accorded him. It was, therefore necessary to consult him as to his intentions, and it was himself who would not allow time to do so.

Our laws are strict with respect to foreigners. Minister of the Interior causes their rigorous provisions to be executed when it is shown him that there is any necessity for such action; and even then he makes use of discretionary power, which the Government of the Emperor has never allowed to be discussed. The quality of foreigner on the part of Mr. Soule placed him within the scope of the measure of which he was the object. All that remained was to reconcile this measure with the acknowledge, sir, that this is what we have done, and that the Government of the United States, with which Government his Majesty the Emperor has at heart to cultivate the relations of friendship and esteem, has in nowise been as-

ailed in the person of one of its representatives.

The Minister of the United States in Spain is free, I repeat it, to pass through France. Mr. Soule, who has no mission to fulfil near the Emperor, and who, conformably with the doctrine sanctioned by the law of nations, would need, on account of his origin, a special agreement to enable him to represent in his native land the country of his adoption—Mr. Soule, as a simple private indivi-dual, comes within the pale of the common law which has been applied to him, and he cannot lay claim to any

Accept, sir, the assurance of high consideration with which I have the honor to remain your very humble and obedient servant,

DROUYN DE L'HUYS. Mr. Masos, United States Minister.

Mr. Mason to Secretary Marcy. LEGATION UNITED STATES, . (No. 41.) PARIS, NOVEMBER 11, 1854. Siz: In my despatch No. 87 I informed you of occurrences at Calais by which Mr. Soule was interrupted in

the prosecution of his journey to Spain; and with that

the prosecution of his journey to Spain; and with that despatch I sent you a copy of my letter to M. Drouyn de l'Huys, Minister of Foreign Affairs, of 27th of October last. On the lst of November I received from his Excellency a note in reply to mine of that date. I send the original, retaining a copy for the files of the Legation. Until the receipt of this note I had understood the prohibition of Mr. Soule's entering France to be unqualified; and such too was the understanding of that gentleman; for by reason of its execution he had to return to England.

On the 6th instant I addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs a communication, of which I send you herewith a copy. I have received no reply, and presume that
it will conclude a correspondence which I felt it to be my
duty to open without waiting for special instructions from
the President. The result, I am happy to say, is that no
impediment exists to the passage of the American Minister accredited to the Spanish Government through
France to his place of official duty. This is recognised,
beyond doubt, as a principle of the law of nations interesting to every country, because its denial would seriously
embarrass the maintenance of diplomatic missions, whose
influence in promoting peace and preserving good relainfluence in promoting peace and preserving good rela-tions in the family of nations is universally acknowledged. I communicated to Mr. Soule, at London, my correspondence with the Emperor's Government; and on the morolog of the 9th instant he arrived in Paris, and left on the 11th for Bordeaux, where he expects to find the United States steam-frigate San Jacinto, in which he will

take passage for Spain.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. Y. MASON.

Hou. Wm. L. Marcy, Secretary of State.

Mr. Mason to M. Drouyn de l' Huys.

LEGATION UNITED STATES, PARIS, NOVEMBER 6, 1854. SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 1st of November, in reply to mine of the 27th of October ultimo. I have carefully examined your narrative of circumstances which led to the event and gave occasion for this correspondence. It is quite manifest that the order under which the Commissary of Police at Calais acted, when he interdicted Mr. Soule's entrance into France, did not present to the American Minister any alternative but to return to England or remain in Calais, virtually under duress, until the further orders of the Emperor's Government could be received. I think your Excellency will concur in the opinion that he could not, consistently with the dignity of his Government, remain on the frontier of France—there situated, awaiting orders which he had no reason to believe would be more favorable than the one which denied him entrance upon French territory. I cannot, therefore, but deeply regret that the precise telegraphic order which your Excellency has incorporated in your letter to me did not precede Mr. Soule's arrival at Calais. That order, I am pleased to find, removes all impediment to the free passage of the American Minister accredited to the Court of Spain through the territory of France.

I have not failed to observe the declaration that Mr. Soule's residence in France will not be authorized by

Soule's residence in France will not be authorized by the Emperor's Government. As his public duties require him to reside in Spain, he has no intention, as far as I am informed, of remaining or residing in France. I therefore forbear entering into any examination of the reasons suggested for the determination to deny him the privilege, or of the manner in which he has been notified of the purpose of the Imperial Government.

I have observed also the distinction which your Excel-

lency makes between individuals and Ministers. Without undertaking to inquire how far such distinction can be maintained—for it is not necessary to the occasion to guard myself against being misunderstood if I pass it in stlence—I must say that, in my opinion, one who is a public minister, passing through the territory of a friendly nation to the Court to which he is accredited, has privileges under the solemn sanction of the law of nations, it which, if it shall become necessary to discuss them, I feel assured that I will not have the misfortune to find conflicting views held by one so enlightened as your

Excellency.

I have much satisfaction in receiving the assurance, given in the emphatic declaration of your Excellency, that the Minister of the United States to Spain is at liberty to traverse France towards his post, and obeying the commission with which he is charged by his Govern-ment. The recognition of this right is all that I have to ask of the Emperor's Government in the premises, and on this, as on all other occasions, I receive with pleasure the assurance that the Government of his Imperial Majesty has at heart relations of friendship and esteem with the Government of the United States; feeling which, it is my constant desire and effort to cherish and strengthen

I will hasten to communicate this correspondence to my Government, and will also inform the American Min-ister to Spain, who is still in London, of the result which I avail myself of the opportunity to renew to your Ex-

cellency assurance of the very high consideration with which I am your obedient, humble servant, J. Y. MASON.

## THE SAUT STE. MARIE CANAL.

This work is nearly completed, and will be entirely so within a few weeks. The opening of the spring (says the the Upper Peninsula. The great impediment to the development of its resources and to the general prosperity. Washington asof the country will have been removed. The canal is of sufficient capacity to admit the largest vessels that float the lakes. Lakes Ontario, Erie, St. Clair, Huron, Michigan, and Superior are made a perfect navigable chain. A vessel may clear from the head of the latter for Liverpool, Havre, or Canton, and, passing through the river St. Lawrence to the ocean, reach either port without breaking bulk. Is not the achievement a proud one?

## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

The New York Courier says that the commercial reac tion has fairly reached the import trade, and it gives the following figures as an important indication of the pro gress of contraction in this branch of business:

	1854.	1853.
New York	\$1,556,000	\$3,000,000
Philadelphia	219,000	310,000
Boston		
Baltimore	63,000	46,000
New Orleans	336,000	355,000

\$4,520,000 Decrease in 1854 ... The official returns for Boston come down only to the 25th and for New Orleans only to the 18th of November. The receipts for the remaining portions of the month are estimated by the average of the time covered by the official reports. The decrease, compared with the corresponding month of 1853, is equal to 40 per cent.

The exports from New York to foreign p ts for the month of November show a falling off in comparison with the shipments for the same month of last year. The total export for the month, exclusive of specie, was \$5,100,280. The total exports since January 1st, exclusive of specie, amount to \$58,358,875; specie included. the total is \$95,460,117. This shows a gain including specie, but a falling-off in the shipments of merchandise and produce of \$1,182,917 as compared with the corre sponding eleven months of last year. Compared with the same period of 1852 it shows an increase of \$15,452,526.

OPERATIONS OF THE PHILADELPHIA MINT .- During the past month the purchase of silver at the Philadelphia mint amounted to \$405,900. The coinage of gold for the same time, principally in gold dollars and quarter eagles, was \$529,298. The coinage of silver, principally in half dollars and dimes, amounted to \$288,000. The receipts of California gold amounted to only \$825,200, and from other sources to \$4,153. This falling off is attributed to the operations of the New York assay office and the California mint. Total receipts of gold at the Philadelphia mint for the last eleven months \$32,515,929, against \$48,298,552 in the same time last year.

VOTE FOR GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK .- The official canvass of the whole State shows Myron H. Clark's majority to be three hundred and nineteen. Several hundred defective ballots were returned, but not counted. If those apparently designed for Clark and Seymour were in- of the figures that prove its existence. cluded in the count, Mr. Clark would still have a majority over Seymour of 150 votes.

DECIDED BY ONE VOTE .- The Chicago Times says that the official returns of the vote of every county in the seventh district of Illinois have been received, and that they show a majority of one vote for Mr. ALLEN, the t Democratic Representative in Congress from that

ANOTHER BANK DEFAULTER .- A teller in one of the oldest banking houses at Chicago is said to have disappeared, being a defaulter to an amount ranging from \$40,000 to \$70,000. It is supposed to have been squandered in gamping.

#### CLOUDS IN THE SOUTH.

It is evident that the Democracy is to have trouble at the South as well as at the North, and that the most disastrous consequences to the party are not only anticipated, but have already com-menced. The result of the election at New Orleans for a State Senator and two Representatives has been announced. The Democratic candidate met with a signal defeat in what one of the editors terms a "mimic contest," but which, by his own reasoning, is of much consequence. The Louisiana Courier says:

"It would be vain to deny that the Democratic party tion. The returns show that well enough. The vote polled for our candidates on Monday was absurdly small. In truth our friends absolutely made no fight at all. They let the election go by default. For this apathy there were many causes.

And these causes the Courier goes on to explain: such as a want of "organization," (a very rare want with the Democracy;) no issue sufficiently important; and a sequence of the present situation of European affairs and

could make no practical difference. After all, the Courier comes to the comforting conclusion that the Know-Nothings failed to vote the eight polled three thousand eight hundred and thirty votes. "that time and bitter experience will teach them their

Courier to show the course of politics in the South, and once triumphant party.

ALLEGED IMPRISONMENT OF AN AMERICAN

The New York Times has received a long statement of the peculiar hardships experienced by Mr. Martin Speer, formerly of that city, and now under sentence of the Austrian Government for ten years' imprisonment at hard labor. The circumstances of the case are as follows:

Martin Speer is a respectable naturalized citizen of the United States, of German birth, but fourteen years a resident of New York, where he has been employed by magic lanterns, in which art he is a superior hand. To perfect himself in a certain branch of his calling he went o Europe in July, 1853, and visited Hungary while there in order to make inquiries respecting the character and connexions of a Hungarian refugee named Zagony, who had been anxious to form an intimate connexion with his family. For this purpose he bore a letter of introduction from Zagony to his pretended connexions, the contents of which, as it was written in a language unknown to him. can only be conjectured from the fact that on presenting the letter he was immediately thrown into prison, tried and condemned to ten years' imprisonment at hard labor, without permission to communicate in any manner with his family and friends, nor with the American Consul. contrived to communicate his situation to his family in position. the American Government The wife of Mr. Speer having appealed to Secretary

MARCY, he has written her the following letter :

DEPARTMENT OF STATE Washington, May 25, 1854. I have received your letter of the 16th instant, on the subwarded to Mr. Henry R. Jackson, the Charge d'Affaires of the United States at Messina, with instructions to investigate their personal standing in society, as well as their busiand report the circumstances of the case to this Departmen and to take such measures as those circumstances may warrant to protect your husband in his rights and to effect his release from imprisonment.

I am, madam, respectfully, your obedient servant,

The belligerent gentry in the large cities must be taken aback considerably at the tone of the President's Message. They probably will be the only people in the country who will find fault with the President for this document. It has in it no smell of gunpowder or plunder .- Alexandria Gazette.

Spurious Banks .- An anonymous inquirer in New York requests us to say whether there are such banks in

Arlington Bank, Washington. Bank of America, Washington.
Bank of Anacastia, Anacastia.
Merchants' Exchange Bank, Anacastia. All that we can say is that we know of no such banks

GENERAL RAILBOAD CONVENTION .- A Railroad Conven tion was held in Cleveland last week, at which delegates were present from thirty-five different roads, from Massachusetts to the Mississippi. Much discussion took place, and a committee was appointed to prepare a statement of facts setting forth the position of the general railroad interest in the United States, and stating reasons why higher rates should be obtained for the transportation of passengers, mails, and freight.

IMPROVEMENTS IN NORTH CAROLINA .- The project of Southeastern Virginia, and some of the papers state that first, as it will undoubtedly be his last, mission. there is now a prospect that the work will be completed. Surveys have been made, and it is found that a canal only five miles in length will connect Albemarle and Curthe Elizabeth river, near Norfolk.

Mr. PEABODY .- The New York Evening Post says of his esteemed and eminent American Banker in London "Mr. Peabody is a gentleman of the most kind and beevolent character, distinguished by liberalities which have always been as judiciously bestowed as the impulse from which they flowed was generous and noble. He is n the best terms with his countrymen in England, to whom ne omits no occasion of rendering services.

Mr. PEABODY has endeared himself to his native town f Danvers by founding the "Peabody Institute," which was recently dedicated, and is now in the full tide of successful operation. This noble charity is destined to prove blessing of incalculable value to his townsmen of the present and succeeding generations .- Boston Courier.

RETURN OF IMMIGRANTS TO EUROPE.-The New York courier furnishes a table showing that four of the large shipping houses of that ofty have conveyed to Europe from the 1st of May to the 15th of November 8,797 rerning immigrants. This does not include the shipments of one or two other houses, nor those that have gone back from other ports. Probably the total immigration of this kind during the period specified numbers 12,000. The increased demand in Europe for mechanics and the growing difficulty of their obtaining employment in this country, the disappointment of too sanguine ex-pectations, and the disgust of some with the Know Nothing movement are the causes to which are attributed have accumulated small fortunes return to settle in their own country, and still a large number go back to bring out their families. But the immigration so far prepon derates over the emigration that this backward move ment in the foreign population is scarcely of sufficient extent to be appreciated except through an examination

Capt. ROBERT BURNETT died at his house in Orange county, New York, on the 29th ultimo. He was born on the 22d of February, 1762, and was at his death 92 years eight months and eight days old. Captain Burnett was appointed a dicutement in the Regiment of Artillery in the service of the United States, commanded by Colonei John Lamb, on the 29th day of June, 1781, being then only 19 years of age, and continued in the service during the war. He was esteemed as a brave and efficient officer, and when the American army marched into New York, at the evacuation of the city by the British troops, had the honor of commanding the American Guard, which relieved the British rear guard stationed in the

#### FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.

NEW YORK, DECEMBER 7, 1854. The Message has given satisfaction in consequence of the absence of all irritating language as regards our foreign relations and the general moderation of its tone on that subject. There is, however, more meant in it in the observations respecting European nations interfering with the general affairs of this continent than meets the eye; for I can tell you (and I say it advisedly) that the Greytown affair has produced an unpleasant state of affairs, or at communications to London, has assumed the most ultra responsibility in justifying that affair, which has caused instructions to be issued to the British admiral on the West India station which may lead to unfortunate results, and certainly will do so if there is an attempt on our part to play over the same game. Great Britain, there is no doubt, is anxiously desirous

to avoid any trouble or contest with us, not only in consystem of intimidation and outrage" on the part of the the war in the East, but also for other and obvious ren-Know-Nothings. A "local prejudice" against the De- sons connected with her commercial and financial relathousand they boasted of as at their command, and only nity touch her national pride or honor. In such a case properly acknowledged in official letters from the command. neither the sovereign nor the people would hesitate to It admits that it knows many Democrats who "had been dare any consequences, or to meet any responsibility or seduced into the Know-Nothing organization;" but hopes results, in resenting an attack on or insult to either, and would not only defy, but if necessary actually fight "a world in arms." The Greytown affair is re-We merely quote these items of information from the garded somewhat in the light I allude to in Great Britain, and there is, to say the least of it, a very sore feeling on to express our wonder what it is that, in less than two the subject, which for the present will probably end in years, has so completely paralyzed the energies of the merely taking the necessary measures, as already alluded to, that nothing of the kind shall be again done with impunity. If it is, I fear it would not result in "a word and a blow," but the blow would come first. I repeat to you that my information on this point is perfectly reliable. Notwithstanding all the President says on the subject, the attack on Greytown is a thing which cannot be jus tified. There was a great deal of truth in Napoleon's expression "that he who excuses, accuses himself," and the large portion of the message which is devoted to the explanation of the affair is an indirect acknowledgment not only that it required explanation, but also of the weakness of the case.

If the community at Greytown, as has been so fre quently alleged by the defenders of the Administration, were a nest of pirates, and not within the pale of legiti mate warfare or consideration, how comes it that the Government of the United States had an official representative there, and that he is going, or has gone, again to reside there? Is it the practice of the American Government to recognise piratical communities, by sending officials to reside among them? And do not those who denounce them as pirates see the alternative that they thus saidle on the shoulders of the Administration? We shall gain nothing in any way by disturbing that affair or provoking further discussion. The sooner we let it sink into obli-By means of a note dropped upon the road, and found vion the better, and let us hope it will be long, very long, by some one who conveyed it to the American Consul, he before the nation or the navy are again placed in the same vion the better, and let us hope it will be long, very long,

Know-Nothingism, I see, has promptly shown itself in both Houses immediately after the opening of the session. What a wonderful thing "success" is in this world! Look at the denunciations and scurrility that was heaped upon them but a few short months since by those presses most devoted to the Administration, and especially by its ect of the arrest and imprisonment of your husband, Martin favorite organ at Washington. To believe these oracles, Speer, at Debreezin, in Hangary, or in some other part of the the whole body were obscure and contemptible, and its Austrian dominion, and have caused a copy of it to be for-members ashamed of being known to belong to the order, and actually alarmed on that point for fear of injuring ness or employment. To such an extent was this carried by the party in power that we understood here a private edict was issued at Washington to expel at once from employment in the Departments any one known to be a member. But what "a change has come o'er the spirit of their dream !" Already we see members of Congress rising in their seats and advocating the great doctwines of Know-Nothingism, and a majority of both Houses, as is the fact, are actual members of the order The probability is that, like Aaron's rod, it will swallow up all the iens of the country, including sectionalism, abolitionism, and secessionism; and, if it will only gulp own all these three, who that has a pro ing or a due share of patriotism will refuse to join in the shout of Laus Deo?

Mr. Souls, I see, is being handled without gloves in the debate in the House. When such an out and out and consistent Democrat as Mr. LETCHEE, of Virginia, deshould have been made, and that the interests of the give her any more. country required his recall; and when such a man as Mr. BAYLY, the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, virtually joins in the same opinion by declaring his opposition to the appointment of foreigners as our foreign representatives, it is certainly very significant; and there is not the shadow of a doubt that if the people of the United States could be polled on the question they would support the opinion of Mr. Letcher as regards Mr. Soule by a vote of ten to one. Mr. Soule has indeed been a hard bargain for the Administration. and they themselves are at present fully aware of it. They will, however, be saved the necessity of recalling him, as constructing a ship canal for the purpose of uniting Albe- he will not be again received at Madrid; at least that is, marle sound and Elizabeth river has been revived in from present advices, the most probable result of this his

The next European arrival will probably bring distressing advices to all the friends of humanity; for whether Sebastopol has fallen or not, or whether the Alrituck sounds : thence the North Landing river affords lies are successful or defeated, a most horrible carnage is navigation to North Landing, in Virginia, from whence to be the inevitable result. The situation of the Allies another canal, seven miles long, will unite that point with is such that not only the best informed here but also in Europe believe they cannot delay the assault, whether their own means or the state of the defences of the city are favorable for such an attack or the contrary. They cannot remain as they now are. They are daily wasting away by sickness and battle at a fearful ratio, and the harassing nature of their position and duties, joined with the already great severity of the season, will exhaust their physical ability as well as their actual numbers in a most alarming manner. They, therefore, must make the attempt at any cost to capture the place; and, if successful, all they can probably do will be to carry off the fleet and stores, blow up the fortifications, and embark the remnants of their army for their old position on the Danube or near Constantinople. But, if some of the latest advices received from Europe are reliable, even a successful assault is not destined to relieve them, for letters received here from various quarters state that a large portion of the town has been mined by the Russians, and that, in case the Allies carry it, the city will be reduced to rains by exploding the mines under all the leading streets and involve the Allies who may have entered it in one common destruction. The Russian's are well capable of doing all this; and we may, at any rate, look for most melancholy details of human carnage on

A GALLANT STOCK .- Accounts from the Crimea announce the death of Col. the Hon. Francis G. Hood, commanding the third battalion of the Grenadier Guards. His father, Lieut. Col. Francis Hood, was killed on the heights of Aire, in the South of France, in 1814, and he himself has met death in an equally noble manner at the head of his battalion before Sebastopol. He is the great grandson of the first Lord Hood, of naval renown, who with their native land and quite satisfied to remain there. was elevated to the peerage in 1782 for his celebrated vic-tory over the French fleets under the Count de Grasse, in the West Indies. Colonel Hood was brother to the third Viscount who succeeded his grandfather. He has been twenty-seven years in the Grenadier Guards.

MAIL ROBBER ARRESTED.—Wm. J. Brown, special mail agent of the Post Office Department, on Friday last arrested John M. Watson, postmaster at Rainsborough, Highland county, Ohio, on a charge of robbing the mail. Counterfeit notes, placed in a decoy letter, are said to have been paid out by Watson.

The New York Chamber of Commerce have adopted resolutions recommending to Congress that an expedition be sent in search of Dr. Kans, the Arctic navigator.

Trushed to the telegraph office and sent them the following despatch: "Circleville Bank has gone to hell, must be there to morrow."

### THE UNITED STATES AND FRANCE.

Mr. Walsh writes from Paris : "The article that lately appeared in the Constitutionnel on the subject of relation between France and the United States did great injustice to our Government in some particulars. For the discourtesy offered to the French ship of war in the harber of New York by a band of foreign refugees neither this Gosernment ner the American people are responsible any more than the British Government and public are respect sible for the hostile designs against the French Emperor least of feeling, in Great Britain. Mr. Manov, in his that are entertained by French and Italian refugees i England. But while that disgraceful act was passing a part of the same French West India squadron to which that ship belonged came into the port of Norfolk in distress, and met with every courtesy and substantial relief from the United States officers at that station. The crews were suffering with yellow fever, and hospitals were prepared for the sick, and also a receiving ship for those who were well, and all were supplied with medical aid and stores at the expense of the United States. In addition to this, on the fete day of Napoleon, the 15th of August. the United States officers in command hoisted French co. mocratic candidate is mentioned, and the further fact tions with the United States, which in every way are of lors on the Pennsylvania line-of battle ship, and fired a that the Democrats already have a large majority in the such vast not to say vital importance to her. She will, salute of twenty-one gans at noon. The commander of Legislature, and the loss or gain of two or three members therefore, if she possibly can do so with honor, avoid the French ship, the Chimere, was unable from the state any collision; but our statesmen have read her history of his vessel to henor the day in the usual manner, and and studied the character of her Government and people | hence the courtesy on the part of the United States was to but little purpose if they think they can with impu- the more significant and acceptable; and it was duly and nander of the Chimere and the French Consul-General. More recently the French squadron, returning discornfited and shattered from the attack upon Petropaulowski. put into the port of San Francisco, where military civilities were tendered them by Gen. Wood, and where they were permitted to refit and obtain supplies. France had no right to claim this privilege of us as a neutral, and other neutrals would have refused it through fear of compremitting their neutrality."

#### THE EFFECTS OF CHLOROFORM.

The recent trial and conviction of Dr. STEPHEN T. BEALE, dentist, in the Criminal Court of Philadelphia, has led to a searching inquiry as to the effects of other and chloroform upon patients. A meeting of the leading dentists of New York has been held for the purpose of considering the subject and interchanging the results of their respective experience. There were present at the meeting about forty gentlemen, sixteen of whom gave their opinions. We extract a few of them:

Dr. Burras related several cases which had come a ler his observation. One of the first cases in which he tried it was that of his sister. She very speedily manifested its peculiar agency, placed her brother's hat on her head, put on his coat, and nursed the sofa pillows on her lap, completely forgetting all she had done when she became rational and conscious. He stated two other cases in which it produced a kind of hallucination: in one of them a young man attacked him, supposing him to be a robber; and in the other, a young lady accused him of slapping her in the face, and would not be convinced that he had not, except by the testimony of another lady whe

Dr. Barlow said he had witnessed the use of it in no less than fifteen hundred cases. He was in the habit of using it three or four times a week. He had known cases in which both sexes said and did things which they would not in ordinary conditions, sometimes divulging the

most delicate secrets.

Dr. Buzdell corroborated the statements of the preceding speaker. He had observed that almost invariably there is strange misconstruction of passing events. He related a very strong instance in point. A gentleman brought a lady to have a tooth removed; he wished her to use other. After the operation was over she said:
"George, what did you kiss me for; you took advantage
of me." Now, observed the doctor, had not the person supposed to be implicated been her husband or her and present, it would have been morally impossible to correct an erroneous or painful impression, and hardly possible even then. Improper feelings had often been

manifested by his patients.

Dr. Crowell related two cases. A young lady came to have her tooth extracted, accompanied by her mother. No sooner was it removed than she angrily complained her mother could convince her to the contrary. So strong-ly riveted is the impression, that, though nine years aga-on his asking her at Saratoga if she had got rid of that foolish impression, she said: "Oh! that's nonsense; you know you did." In another case a woman insisted that he threw her on the floor and kneeled on her while he re-

moved a tooth.

Dr. Francis had extracted seven teeth from a lady when thought they were taken from her child. He told also of two well-dressed ladies who called on him professionally. One of them, while under the influence of chloroform. used language of the most ridiculous, profane, and ever obscene description. When recovered, she seemed perfeetly unconscious of having uttered any improper expression, and was apparently not accustomed to its use.

Dr. Hund related a case where, in presence of her hundral, a lady under the influence of ether followed, or

rather chased himself, the operator, round the room, afconsistent Democrat as Mr. Letcher, of Virginia, de-clares from his seat that it is an appointment which never much so that her mortified husband desired him not to

Dr. Dressler stated that he had seen several hundred cases. In one of these a young lady persisted that he had given her a kiss, and but for the presence of her mother he had no means of proving the contrary.

Many other gentlemen gave their experience, all of which tended to corroborate the fact that strange impressions are often produced in the minds of those who take ether, and sometimes such as lead them to commit gross improprieties. Several of the speakers expressed their earnest convictions of the innocence of Dr. BEALE. A New Hampshire physician, in a letter made public, describes ether as nearly or quite dethroning reason, sometimes for hours, and frequently hurrying the imagination and the feelings through indescribable scenes and visions in the wildest tumult. The mass of testimony elicited proves one thing at least-that the use of ether is a dangerous experiment, to be avoided if possible; and, as one of the speakers remarked, that the operation of extracting a tooth is of too trivial a nature to require it.

A decision just rendered by the Paited States Circuit Court at Boston has disfranchised two thousand alien to ters, in consequence of the defective organization of the Police Court by which their papers were issued.

EXECUTION AT BUFFALO. - William Darry, a ship carpenter, who murdered his wife Mary on the 14th of August, 1852, at Buffalo, was executed in that city on Friday week. He had been married but three mont His dying words were that the assault, which resulted in his wife's death, was committed while he was under the influence of liquor, and that she loved him, and never gave him cause to injure her.

TRIAL OF A JUNOR FOR PERJURY. -The regular term of the Bardin (Ky) Circult Court is now progressing in Elizabethtown. Thomas M. Yates, one of the jurous who granted the verdict of not guilty in the Ward case, is upon trial for perjury. He was indicted by the grand jury, along with several others of the same jury.

IRELAND .- At length, it seems, we have reached the point-foreseen by so many political conomists long since—the depletion of Ireland. Our Irish immigration Our Irish immigration is falling off rapidly, and bids fair to decline to a mere nominal figure. Many former emigrants are returning to their native land; and Ireland itself is said to be in the enjoyment of a prosperity to which it has been a stranger for years. Within the last ten years it cannot have enjoyaem. Within the last ten years it cannot have ger for years. Within the last ten years it cannot have lost less than three to four millions of inhabitants by emigration, famine, and disease; and, in consequence, those who are left behind have plenty of elbow-room and find plenty of work at fair prices. The operation of the Encumbered Estates Court has releved the troubles of that large class of proprietors who were an incubus to the country, and whose inability to improve their land or pay their debts induced the wide-spread distress of the laboring classes. Must of these estates have been taken us ing classes. Most of these estates have been taken up in small lots and divided among a large number of holders, [Philadelphia Journal.

The Germans are rapidly increasing in Boston. Then tre bills are printed in German; two newspapers in German; German Debating Clubs, German Gymnasts, every thing German.

The Ohio Statesman tells a story of a Cincinnatian, a great friend of the Circleville Bank, who, at the time of its suspension, was on his way to it with fifteen to twenty thousand of its promises to pay, which he designed to convert into coin. When he arrived he was overwhelmed with astonishment by the news of its suspension, and, wishing to inform his friends of the fact and that he would return home the ndst day, he maked to the telegraph office and sent them the following.